IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A continuous time sigma delta converter comprising:

conversion means having known non-ideal characteristics and arranged to provide an output signal;

a compensation circuit comprising error modelling components arranged to substantially model the non-ideal characteristics of the conversion means in order to provide a compensation signal, the non-ideal characteristics including asymmetrical errors associated with non-ideal rising and falling edges of signal transitions of the converter; and

summation means coupled to combine the compensation signal with the output signal in order to provide a compensated output signal.

2.   (Previously Presented) The converter of claim 1 further characterised by:

the summation means being arranged to subtract the compensation signal from the output signal in order to provide the compensated output signal.

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Currently Amended) A method of compensating for known non-ideal characteristics in a continuous time sigma delta converter, the method comprising:

converting an input signal of one time domain to an output signal of another time domain using a converter having known non-ideal characteristics;

modelling the non-ideal characteristics of the converter in a compensation circuit, the non-ideal characteristics including asymmetrical errors associated with non-ideal rising and falling edges of signal transitions of the converter; and

combining a compensation signal output of the compensation circuit with the output signal of the converter in order to provide a compensated output signal.

5.   (Previously Presented) The converter of claim 1 further characterised by:

the non-ideal characteristics being associated with a feedback path of the converter.

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6.   (Previously Presented) The converter of claim 1 further characterised by:

the non-ideal characteristics including symmetrical errors associated with non-ideal rising and falling edges of signal transitions of the converter.

7.   (Cancelled)

8.   (Previously Presented) The converter of claim 1 further characterised by:

the compensation circuit having calibration parameters determined by a dichotomy technique which iteratively refines the values of the calibration parameters.

9. -14. (Cancelled)

15.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 further characterised by:

the non-ideal characteristics being associated with a feedback path of the converter.

16.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 further characterised by:

the non-ideal characteristics including symmetrical errors associated with non-ideal rising and falling edges of signal transitions of the converter.

17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 further characterised by:

the compensation circuit having calibration parameters determined by a dichotomy technique which iteratively refines the values of the calibration parameters.